COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFF A.B. CASE NO. 3:23-MD-03084; 3:25-CV-01079

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Page 1 of 3

Case 3:23-md-03084-CRB

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This Motion is made pursuant to Local Rule 11-5(a), and in part, California Rules of Professional Conduct 1.16(b)(4) and 1.16(d). This Notice of Motion and Motion to Withdraw is based on the below Memorandum and accompanying Declaration of Steven S. Schulte, attached as Exhibit A, filed contemporaneously. A Proposed Order is attached as Exhibit B.

## MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL

Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 11-5(a), Nachawati Law Group ("NLG") submits this Memorandum and Notice/Motion to Withdraw as Counsel for Plaintiff A.B. NLG respectfully requests that the Court grant the Motion.

## **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

Plaintiff A.B. is currently represented by NLG. Plaintiff's claims were filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California as Case No. 3:25-cv-01079 on February 3, 2025. Plaintiff's case was consolidated into the multidistrict litigation *In re: Uber Technologies, Inc.* Passenger Sexual Assault Litigation, Case No. 3:23-md-03084.

NLG has been unable to reach and communicate with Plaintiff. See Ex. A, Declaration of Steven S. Schulte ("Schulte Decl.") at ¶ 3. NLG has made numerous, ongoing attempts to contact Plaintiff via phone, email, correspondence, and text, about the need to respond and communicate with our firm about the case, to no avail. Schulte Decl. ¶ 4(a)-(b). NLG has been unable to identify or locate any better contact information for Plaintiff. *Id*.

In our firm's latest correspondence to Plaintiff in mid-August 2025, sent via fed ex, NLG informed Plaintiff of its intention to withdraw in light of non-responsiveness and lack of communication. Schulte Decl. ¶ 4(b). Since then and as of this filing's date, Plaintiff has not responded or otherwise contacted or communicated with NLG. Schulte Decl. ¶ 5. NLG thus remains counsel of record for Plaintiff, while it also remains unable to reach or communicate with Plaintiff.

## <u>ARGUMENT</u>

NLG should respectfully be permitted to withdraw as counsel for Plaintiff. An attorney may withdraw from a case by obtaining an order from the Court after reasonable advance written notice has been provided to the client and to all other parties. Civ. L.R. 11-5(a). Attorneys practicing before

1	this Court are required to adhere to the California Rules of Professional Conduct. Civ. L.R. 11-
2	4(a)(1). Under those rules, a "lawyer shall not terminate a representation until the lawyer has taken
3	reasonable steps to avoid reasonably foreseeable prejudice to the rights of the client." Cal. Rules.
4	Prof. Conduct 1.16(d)(1). NLG has given appropriate advance notice of its intent to withdraw to
5	Plaintiff. Schulte Decl. ¶ 4(b)-(d). NLG has taken all steps possible to avoid prejudice to Plaintiff.
6	Schulte Decl. ¶ 6.
7	Under California Rule of Professional Conduct 1.16(b)(4), a lawyer may withdraw from a
8	case if "the client renders it unreasonably difficult for the lawyer to carry out the representation
9	effectively." Here, Plaintiff has failed to communicate with NLG or otherwise be responsive and
10	provide certain information required to prosecute the case. Schulte Decl. ¶¶ 2-3. NLG has been
11	unable or will continue to be unable to meet deadlines or effectively prosecute the case because of
12	this non-responsiveness and inability to communicate; Plaintiff's conduct thus falls into the express
13	terms of Rule 1.16 regarding permissive withdrawal.
14	Because this Motion is not accompanied by a substitution of counsel or an agreement by
15	Plaintiff to proceed <i>pro se</i> , NLG will agree to the condition imposed by Civ. L.R. 11-5(b) to serve
16	Plaintiff with all papers in this matter, unless or until Plaintiff appears pro se, other counsel appears
17	on Plaintiff's behalf, or upon further order of the Court. See Schulte Decl. ¶ 7.
18	CONCLUSION
19	NLG respectfully requests that the Court enter an order terminating it and its lawyers from any
20	further responsibility for the representation of Plaintiff A.B., and to allow ample opportunity and time
21	to Plaintiff to retain new counsel.
22	Dated: August 26, 2025  NACHAWATI LAW GROUP  /s./ Steven S. Schulte
23	Steven S. Schulte (TX SBN 24051306)
24	Admitted pro hac vice Arati Furness (CA Bar No. 225435)

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**COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFF** 

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